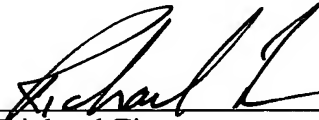


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Richard Zimmermann

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

The amendments to the specification section begins on page 2 of this paper;

The amendments to the claims section (including a complete listing of claims)

begins on page 6 of this paper; and

The remarks section begins on page 18 of this paper.